

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A protective undergarment, comprising:

an outer layer of fluid-resistant material shaped to conform to a buttock and leg region of a user;

an anchor layer secured to the outer layer and having a shape conforming to that of the outer layer; and

an inner layer of fluid-resistant material with four sides thereof ~~attached~~ stitched ^{Am 3-17-01} to the anchor layer but not to the outer layer, the ~~attached~~ stitched ⁶⁻¹⁰ four sides thereof being displaced ~~laterally~~ inwardly from corresponding sides toward a center of the anchor layer, and the inner layer at all four sides thereof extending from the anchor layer, on the ~~user~~ inner side of the undergarment when the undergarment is worn, to form a pocket.

2. (Previously Presented) The protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein a base portion of the pocket is positioned on a surface of the anchor layer.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 16, wherein the periphery of the pocket is stitched to the second layer.

6. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 16, wherein the periphery of the pocket and second layer are joined at an elastic strip.

7. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein the pocket is attached to the anchor layer by a releasable fastener.

8. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 7, wherein the releasable fastener comprises a filamentary or snap fastener.

610 9. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein the inner layer is formed by a rectangular piece of material, the corners of which are folded inward and outer edge of the pocket covered by an elastic strip.

10. (Currently Amended) The A protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein the inner layer is formed by a rectangular piece of material, triangular portions near the corners of the pocket having been removed, and remaining adjacent sides of pocket joined together and an outer edge of the pocket covered by an elastic strip.

11. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 9, wherein opposite ends of the pocket are cuffed and the elastic strip covers edges of the cuffs to establish an elasticized adjustable pocket opening.

12. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 9, wherein the pocket is attached to the anchor layer by a releasable fastener.

13. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 10, wherein the pocket is attached to the anchor layer by a releasable fastener.

14. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 9, wherein the pocket is attached to the anchor layer by connecting pieces of material.

15. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment as in claim 16, wherein the pocket floats with respect the first, outer layer.

16. (Withdrawn) A protective undergarment, comprising:
a first, outer layer of fluid-resistant material;
a second layer of material having its peripheral edge attached to the first layer, a shape conforming to that of the first layer and a central opening;
a third layer of material attached only at its outer edge by an elastic strip to the second layer and extending beneath the opening toward the first layer, the third layer being proportioned relative to the opening so as to form a pocket, the entire periphery of which is beneath the second layer and larger than the opening.

17. (Previously Presented) The protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein the sides are interconnected to form the pocket.

18. (Previously Presented) The protective undergarment as in claim 17, wherein the sides are interconnected by stitching.

610 19. (Currently Amended) The protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein an ~~exposed edge~~ entire perimeter of the pocket is circumscribed by an elastic strip.

20. (New) The protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein the anchor layer is secured to the outer layer only at a peripheral edge of the outer layer.

21. (New) The protective undergarment as in claim 1, wherein the stitch lines in the inner layer intersect corners of the pocket.